

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (original): A non-aqueous, oil-continuous microemulsion comprising:

- at least one oil component;
- at least one non-aqueous polar solvent component;
- at least one amphiphilic material component; and
- at least one solubilized polar compound component.

Claim 2 (original): The microemulsion of claim 1 wherein said oil component is selected from alkyl esters of fatty acids, fatty alcohols, esters of dicarboxylic acids, guerbet alcohols, alcohol acetates, petroleum fractions, aliphatic paraffinic light distillates, hydrocarbon oils, vegetable oils, synthetic triglycerides, triethyl phosphate, and combinations thereof.

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 2 wherein said esters of dicarboxylic acids are selected from abietic acid, azelaic acid, fumaric acid, phthalic acid, adipic acid, malonic acid, oxalic acid, succinic acid, carbonic acid, and combinations thereof.

Claim 4 (Original): The microemulsion of claim 2 wherein said alkyl esters of fatty acids are selected from methyl oleate, ethyl oleate, methyl soyate, ethyl soyate, soybean oil, castor oil, and combinations thereof.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 2 wherein said hydrocarbon oils are selected from an aliphatic hydrocarbon, an aromatic hydrocarbon, and combinations thereof.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 1 wherein said oil component comprises a branched-chain hydrocarbon having between about 12 and about 20 carbon atoms.

Claim 7 (Original): The microemulsion of claim 1 wherein said non-aqueous,

polar solvent is selected from an alcohol, a low-molecular-weight ester, an amine, an alkoxyated amine, an amide, a nitrile, a sulfoxide, sorbitol, urea, and combinations thereof.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 1 wherein said non-aqueous, polar solvent comprises an alcohol having more than one hydroxyl group selected from a dihydric alcohol, a trihydric alcohol, a polyhydric alcohol (polyol), and combinations thereof.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 8 wherein said dihydric alcohol is selected from ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, 1,3-butanediol, a glycol derivative, and combinations thereof.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 8 wherein said trihydric alcohol is a glycerol or a glycerol derivative.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 8 wherein said polyhydric alcohol (polyol) comprises the formula  $\text{CH}_2\text{OH}(\text{CHOH})_n\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ , and wherein  $n$  is between 2 and 5.

Claim 12 (Original): The microemulsion of claim 7 wherein said amine is selected from ethylene diamine, ethanolamine, diethanolamine, triethanolamine, and combinations thereof.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 7 wherein said amide is selected from dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide, N-methylpyrrolidone, and combinations thereof.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 7 wherein said sulfoxide is dimethylsulfoxide.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 7 wherein said low-molecular-weight ester is  $\gamma$ -butyrolactone.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 7 wherein said nitrile is benzonitrile.

Claim 17 (Original): The microemulsion of claim 1 wherein said amphiphilic material is selected from cationic surfactants, non-ionic surfactants, quaternary surfactants, amphoteric surfactants, zwitterionic surfactants, and combinations thereof.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 17 wherein said cationic surfactant is selected from an alkylamine having between 8 and 18 carbon atoms, an alkoxyated amine having between 8 and 18 carbon atoms, and combinations thereof.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 17 wherein said non-ionic surfactant is selected from a polyoxyethylene alcohol, an alcohol polyoxypropylene-polyoxyethylene, a polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid ester, an acetylenic diol, an ethoxylated acetylenic diol, and combinations thereof.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 1 wherein said amphiphilic material is selected from alkylamines, alkylamine ethoxylates, alkylamine propoxylates, alkylamine propoxylate-ethoxylates, fatty alcohol ethoxylates, fatty alcohol propoxylates, fatty alcohol propoxylate-ethoxylates, fatty acid ethoxylates, fatty acid propoxylates, fatty acid propoxylate-ethoxylates, synthetic long-chain alcohol ethoxylates, synthetic long-chain alcohol propoxylates, synthetic long chain acid propoxylate-ethoxylates, synthetic long-chain acid ethoxylates, synthetic long-chain acid propoxylates, synthetic long chain acid propoxylate-ethoxylates, alkylphenol ethoxylates, alkylphenol propoxylates, alkylphenol propoxylate-ethoxylates, alkylpolyglucosides, sorbitol esters, sorbitan esters, sorbitol ester ethoxylates, sorbitan ester ethoxylates, polyoxypropylene-polyoxyethylene block copolymers, ethylenediamine-polyoxypropylene-polyoxyethylene block copolymers, and combinations thereof.

Claim 21 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 1 wherein said solubilized polar compound is a polar agrochemical complex.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 21 wherein said polar agrochemical complex is a polar-acidic agrochemical complex is selected from an amino acid, a phenoxy, and combinations thereof.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 22 wherein said polar-acidic agrochemical complex is selected from a glyphosate complex, a 2,4-D complex, a glufosinate complex, and combinations thereof.

Claim 24 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 23 wherein said glyphosate complex is selected from a glyphosate ester, a glyphosate amide, a glyphosate alkylamide, a glyphosate salt, and combinations thereof.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 23 wherein said glyphosate complex comprises a glyphosate ester and an alcohol.

Claim 26 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 23 wherein said glyphosate complex comprises a glyphosate alkylamide and an amine.

Claim 27 (Withdrawn): The microemulsion of claim 1 wherein the equivalent acid content of solubilized polar compound present in said microemulsion is between

less than about 5 and about 20% by weight.

Claims 28-50 (cancelled)

Claim 51 (Previously Presented): The microemulsion of claim 1 wherein said oil component is methyl oleate; wherein said polar solvent is selected from monoethanolamine and propylene glycol and combinations thereof; wherein said amphiphilic material is selected from N, N-(dihydroxyethyl) oleylamine and polyoxyethylene (2) oleyl ether and combinations thereof; and wherein said solubilized polar compound is N-(phosphonomethyl) glycine.

Claim 52 (Previously Amended): The microemulsion of claim 51 wherein said oil component is methyl oleate; wherein said polar solvent is monoethanolamine; wherein said amphiphilic material is polyoxyethylene (2) oleyl ether; and wherein said solubilized polar compound is N-(phosphonomethyl) glycine.

Claim 53 (New): A microemulsion according to Claim 53 wherein said oil component is an alkyl ester of a fatty acid; wherein said polar solvent is a mixture of monoethanolamine and propylene glycol; wherein said amphiphilic material is a nonionic surfactant or combination thereof; and wherein said active agent is a polar acidic herbicide compound.

Claim 54 (New): A microemulsion according to Claim 53, wherein said active agent is glyphosate.

Claim 55 (New): A microemulsion according to Claim 54, wherein said oil component is methyl oleate.

Claim 56 (New): A method for combating undesirable plants associated with crop plants which comprises applying to the locus of said plants a herbicidally effective amount of a non-aqueous, oil-continuous microemulsion comprising:

- (i) at least one oil component wherein said oil has a freezing point lower than about 0° C and a boiling point above about 300° C;
- (ii) a non-aqueous polar solvent and combinations thereof;
- (iii) an amphiphilic material and combinations thereof; and
- (iv) at least one active herbicide agent which is a solubilized polar compound;

wherein said herbicidal microemulsion is applied to said locus in the form of a spray having a particle size of from about 5  $\mu\text{m}$  to about 30  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter.

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Claim 57 (New): The method according to Claim 56 wherein said herbicidal microemulsion is sprayed on said plant locus using electrohydrodynamic spraying means.